OFFICE OF
Early Learning
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EFS Modernization Guidance for COVID-19

As of March 26, 2020

The EFS Mod team is planning a deployment (release 4.2.3) to support the department's COVID-19 response. This includes expanding the VPK max payable closure limit, expanding the payable absences for VPK and SR, waiving parent copayment during reimbursement processing, extending redetermination and revalidation dates, and enabling disaster messaging on the Family Portal. The anticipated release date is March 31, 2020, however, some items may be available sooner. See draft release notes.

In the meantime, the latest information for providers and early learning coalitions related to EFS Mod is listed below.

Providers

1. For the SR Program, mark absences for open days in the Provider Services Portal per usual. For absences related to COVID-19, choose the "Absence due to Disaster" reason; comments and a document are not required. Then, submit the completed attendance roster to the early learning coalition in April.

2. For the VPK Program, mark absences for open days in the Provider Services Portal per usual and submit the completed attendance roster to the early learning coalition in April.

3. Communicate with your early learning coalition to inform them of any temporary closures that occurred in March before attendance is submitted.

4. Don't change your 2019-2020 provider profile "Closures Calendar" tab due to COVID-19. Temporary closures outside of your normal operating business hours and dates should be communicated to your early learning coalition. All absences and temporary closures in March 2020 will be paid.

5. Don't change your 2019 VPK Provider Application class calendar due to COVID-19 at this time. All absences and temporary closures in March 2020 will be paid.

6. Expect additional guidance regarding 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 SR contracts. In the meantime, continue efforts to complete your 2020-2021 provider profile in the Provider Services Portal and submit for approval.

7. Continue efforts to complete your 2020-2021 VPK Provider Application and VPK-20 Statewide Contract in the Provider Services Portal and submit for approval.

8. Don't collect parent copayments beginning April 1, 2020.